



Egremont News

Issue 101

July, 2018

Rules & Regulations of this Newsletter:

The purpose of this newsletter is to keep residents informed of what is going on in our community. It is printed on a bi-monthly basis by the Selectmen's Office Staff. Articles submitted by Town Boards are not edited by the Select Board or Office Administrator. Outside organizations are allowed to submit articles of no longer than one column length. These articles are to be factual and will not be printed if they contain any political format, forum, or communication. We welcome reader input and hope you enjoy reading the Newsletter. If you wish to receive this newsletter via email please contact town hall.

Road side trimming:

Spring has sprung with a vengeance and growth of bushes, shrubs, and trees is out of control (as is the pollen associated with this growth). That means two things:

1. The Highway Crew is doing roadside trimming and mowing. If there are bushes, shrubs, trees along the road in front of your house that are growing out over the edge of the roadway, or the roadway itself, the town will be trimming them back. This doesn't always look the prettiest. It is for the safety of those using the roadways. To avoid this you can keep them trimmed yourself.

2. You should be making sure that your 911 house number is always clearly visible from both directions of travel so that emergency personnel can find your home if called.

Selectmen to launch Bylaw Review Commission

Egremont's Bylaws, like all corporate bylaws, define the method of operation and interaction between the town's stake-holders, boards and commissions and the select board's local, regional, state and federal interactions and mandates, i.e. all the actions we take on behalf of Egremont citizens.

Our current Town and Zoning Bylaws have not been reviewed comprehensively for over forty years. At that time no action was taken. The result is our incremental series of bylaws that overlap, sometimes inconsistently and are grammatically incompatible. There are gaps. There are new technologies and potentially other issues not addressed at all. There will be four sub-Committees-Regulatory, the Future, Operations and the Environment. They will be chaired respectively by Elliott Snyder, Lucinda

Vermeulen, (Mike P. FC), and Bill Tynan. Each sub-Committee will have at least five members.

Additionally, the Select Board will be guided by Town Council and an Advisory Board which will provide specialized guidance about current best practices. A clerk will be appointed.

Cemetery Commission:

The Egremont Commissioners have recently met and have a few issues that they feel need to be addressed concerning our cemeteries (Town House Hill, Riverside and Hillside). We would ask that all Holiday Decorations be removed by the end of March. If not, they will be removed during spring cleanup. We are also looking to do a little better cleanup after mowing and trimming especially grass clippings on the stones. Our goal is to keep our Cemeteries clean and in the best possible condition. If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact the Cemetery Commissioners through town hall.

The Commission welcomes new member John Wells, who was elected when Henry Granger, who served for 40 years, retired. The other members are David Campbell and Herman Trudeau Jr.

Vacancies on Town Boards:

There is currently two vacancies on the Town's Finance Committee. In general the Finance Committee reviews and makes recommendations on town budget items and expenditures. The Committee meets regularly from November through May and then will meet sporadically during the other months on as needed basis.

The Conservation Commission is looking for a member who will take an active role. The Conservation Commission oversees the Wetlands Protection Act and protects the Town's wetlands and water ways. The

Commission meets twice monthly throughout the year.

ECO-TIP

Use the car wash instead of your driveway. The water that runs off your car is loaded with gasoline, oil, exhaust residue, and salt, and it flows from your driveway into streams, wetlands, and rivers. By law, commercial car washes drain into sewer systems, where the water is treated before being sent to our waterways.

School House:

If you have driven by you have seen our little South Egremont School House 12' in the air while contractors work to replace the foundation and sills. The back of the stone foundation had deteriorated to the point that the building was sinking on the back corner. The building may be lowered by the time you read this.

Work is slated to be completed by July 30. The school program beginning the last week of August will be a pre-K and Kindergarten program, with an after school program as well.



(Photo by Tom Reynolds)

Recycling:

Egremont's General Bylaw 10 requires recycling as much as possible in Egremont. The Selectmen may fine violators up to \$100 per violation. Effective immediately the Town will begin to fine violators of the town's mandatory recycling program. If you are unable to understand the signs that are clearly posted at the Transfer Station please contact Juliette Haas at Town Hall for clarification.

New Transfer Station stickers are available each July. The 2019 stickers have arrived. Stop by Town Hall to get yours.

ECO-TIP

Unbeknownst to consumers, many "bee-friendly" garden plants have been pre-treated with bee-killing

neonicotinoids (aka neonics), used extensively by home and garden centers. These also kill monarch larvae. Permethrin is toxic to bees, fish, and cats. Buy from dealers you can talk to.

Route 23:

In fiscal year 2022 (July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022) MassDOT has plans to do some road reconstruction on Route 23 as it travels through the village of South Egremont. These upgrades will include resurfacing and drainage repairs and upgrades. These upgrades **may** include some changes in intersections, updating and extension of sidewalks, bike paths, and an additional crosswalk. I stress **may** as the survey work has just begun and engineering work has not been done so plans have not been developed. All work will take place in the road right of way with no land takings. MassDOT may be in contact with business owners over the next couple of months as they finish their survey work and prepare preliminary plans. Those preliminary plans will be presented to the Board of Selectmen possibly in the fall of 2018. There will be multiple public hearings held before any construction is done.

In order to come up with appropriate engineering plans employees of Jacobs Engineering and MassDOT will be working in the area and talking with property owners throughout the summer. You will likely see marking flags and painted areas on the roadway.

French Park Gardens:

Gardeners Wanted: French Park Community Garden Beds Now Available to Egremont Families at No Cost

The Greenagers and Egremont businesses have funded eight gardens for Egremont families interested in growing their own food. Applications are now being accepted.

Egremont families are invited to adopt one (or more) of eight raised organic garden beds now installed at French Park.

The stewardship process is being handled by Greenagers.

Those interested may inquire by emailing Greenagers Front Lawn Food Coordinator Aretha Whitehead, at aretha@greenagers.org, or by calling Aretha at 413-644-9090. Please indicate in your email if

there are children in your family or family members with physical limitations.

The gardens are limited to Egremont residents; priority is given to families with children or grandchildren who will learn the importance of growing their own food. Two beds have extra elevation for gardeners with disabilities. The beds were filled by Greenagers with organic soil to encourage organic farming; beds are available for planting now.

The French Park Community Garden has been developed through a collaboration between Greenagers and the Egremont Business Community, an effort led by Kenver LTD. owner Lucinda Vermeulen. Businesses who have contributed to the French Park garden project include Kenver Ltd., John Andrews Restaurant, The Old Mill, 41 Main Antiques, Inn at Sweetwater Farm, Egremont Village Inn, Egremont Land Trust, Karner Brook LLC, North Egremont Country Store, Red Chair Press, and Only in My Dreams. Further funding will be raised to pay for fencing and a gardening shed.

Link to video of dedication

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/EgremontForum/permalink/1692286360860797/>.



(Photo by Mary McGurn.)

Affordable Housing:

Recently the Town was contacted by Construct, Inc. regarding what may be an exciting opportunity to get two units of affordable housing for the Town. Construct is looking for land to be donated to move two residences for affordable housing. If you might be interested in donating land, please contact Town Hall.

ECO-TIP

Many Egremont residents who walk our roads carry a trash bag to keep the roads clean year-round.

Tax Collector/Treasurer:

FISCAL YEAR 2019 TAX BILLS

Fiscal year is from July 1st, 2018 to June 30th, 2019

Billed quarterly

Fiscal Year 2019 Preliminary Real Estate & Personal Property Tax Bills will be mailed no later than June 30th, 2018. There is no grace period on taxes. In order to avoid interest and penalties, be sure to have your payment **in** the tax collector's office by the due dates indicated on your tax bill(s). Postmarks do not apply.

Address Changes – In order to change your address please notify us in writing by email or regular mail.

On Line Banking - UNIPAY on line banking is a great tool for payments of real estate, personal property, excise, water and alarm bills. Visit the Town of Egremont web site www.egremont-ma.gov and click on "pay your bills on line". Follow the instructions from that point. You will be able to use ACH or a credit card. There are fees assessed by the processor for this service. You will be prompted to continue if you accept the fee.

Bank Bill Pay - When making payments through your bank bill pay, please remember to use your current tax bill number and please be sure that you have our remittance address correct.

Remittance Address: Tax Collector, Town of Egremont, P.O. Box 368, So. Egremont, MA 01258

Questions concerning your tax assessment MUST be directed to the Board of Assessors
413-528-0182 ext. 14 Hours – Tuesday & Thursday 9 – 12 assessors@egremont-ma.gov

Emergency Management:

Natural and man-made disasters can strike at any time. Massachusetts is susceptible to many natural hazards including floods, hurricanes and tropical storms, tornadoes, thunderstorms, lightning, severe weather, and others. In addition, man-made disasters can also occur including hazardous materials incidents, power outages, transportation accidents, water supply problems, terrorism and others. Being aware of the different types of incidents that can occur is a critical part of being prepared for emergencies.

In addition to being informed of the types of disasters that could occur, staying informed leading up to and during an emergency is also critical. While many events have little to no notice, hurricanes, blizzards and

other weather events do have some advance notice. Be aware of severe weather watches and warnings and understand what they mean. These watches and warnings can be obtained from media sources, the National Weather Service, and All Hazards National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radios. By being alerted of these severe weather warnings, you can take necessary protective actions to keep you and your family safe.

During emergencies information may be available from a number of sources. It is important to sign up for and be prepared to get information in several ways since not all methods are used for all emergencies, and power outages and other effects of the disaster may cause disruptions in how you get information. Some of the primary ways to get information during an emergency include:

1. Local notification systems such as our Blackboard Connect Alert System uses listed telephone numbers only, so the Town requires registration of cell phones or email addresses. To register or change your contact information, please email or call and we will be happy to assist..

2. Local notifications from public safety may include vehicles using public address speakers or door to door notifications. Other methods may include: Commercial media (TV and radio); MEMA's Massachusetts Alerts smartphone app; MEMA's Twitter or Facebook accounts; MEMA's website: www.mass.gov/mema or our local community government website www.egremont-ma.gov; The Emergency Alert System (EAS) via radio and television; Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA); All Hazards National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio.

3. Call 2-1-1 for Non-Emergency Assistance . 2-1-1 is the Commonwealth's primary telephone call center during times of emergency and is able to provide information on emergency resources such as shelter locations.

Egremont's Emergency Management Team prepares and plans throughout the year for all-hazard response. Communication equipment is constantly reviewed and updated. During times of severe weather outbreaks, Amateur Radio volunteers monitor the weather across Berkshire County and are in direct communication with National Weather Service

offices in Albany NY and Taunton MA.

If you would like more information on how to prepare, please visit the Town's website preparedness page www.egremont-ma.gov/emergency.html or call Town Hall at 413-528-0182 ext 17.

Egremont Technology Committee:

Charter cable TV licensing process continues. On May 15 the Town received Charter's response to the proposed cable TV license agreement that we discussed in a meeting with Charter representatives back on March 28. The Town's Special Telecommunications Counsel immediately reviewed Charter's May 15 response. The encouraging news is that Charter accepted many of the changes the Town had requested. But Counsel recommended that the Town should either stand its ground or find a reasonable compromise on certain unresolved matters that are important to get right before entering into a long-term agreement. Examples include a more reasonable definition of a "standard installation" that would include certain straightforward underground installations; and better accommodation for public, educational, and government (PEG) use of the system. Nothing the Town has requested goes beyond provisions that already exist in other agreements between Charter and at least some cities and towns in the Commonwealth.

The Technology Committee met at the end of May to review Charter's response along with Special Counsel's recommendations. The committee identified just a few small concerns, which Special Counsel incorporated into the Town's response. At its meeting on June 5, the Select Board voted to notify Charter of the Town's position on the few remaining issues, and also to request a meeting as soon as possible with Charter officials who would have authority to conclude a final agreement. Charter has told the Town that they are trying to find a date for appropriate officials to join in a telephone conference meeting.

Previously, the Select Board had scheduled a Public Hearing for June 23 to obtain residents' comments on the tentative final Charter agreement, but this must now be pushed out. We hope that Charter will get back to us very soon with a date for the meeting to finalize the agreement, after which the Town will set a new date for the Public Hearing.

ECO-TIP

Eating locally sourced fruits, veggies, and meats helps reduce the gasoline use and vehicle emissions associated with long transport.

Board of Assessors:

The applications for Statutory Exemptions (Senior, Surviving Spouse, Veteran, Blind) have been sent out. If you have any questions about the forms, please contact our office. These forms must be completed and returned to our office by October 1.

The applications for tax abatement due to the use of property as forest, agricultural/horticultural, or recreational land will be sent out later in July. Property must consist of at least 5 contiguous acres of land under the same ownership and be used as Chapter Land; that is, lands classified and taxed according to Chapter 61 [Forest Land], Chapter 61A [Agricultural/Horticultural Land], and Chapter 61B [Recreational Land].

If you have property in Forest Land make sure you have a current Certificate for Chapter 61/61A Forest lands from the Department of Conservation and Recreation.

Please request a **Change of Address Form** when you want to officially change your address. These forms can be found at the Assessors' Office and on the Town's website. Thank you for your attention to this.

The charge for **Abutters Lists** that are prepared by the Assessors Office is \$1.00 per parcel reported.

The Assessor page on the town website has links to state forms and tax information. You can also access the geographical information system to see tax maps.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the Assessors' office at 528-0182, Ext. 14. Our Town Hall office hours are Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 AM to 12:00 or email us at assessors@egremont-ma.gov.

Water Department:

The annual Consumer Confidence Report has been certified and published. You may obtain a copy at Town Hall, or check the Town's website (http://www.egremont-ma.gov/2017_ccr.pdf) for the report.

Please let the Department know if you are going to be filling your pool! The recorder at the water plant shows an increase but we cannot tell if it is a leak or pool use or irrigation. A quick call will help us with our reporting to the state. Thank you!

Did you know that a dripping faucet can waste 20 gallons of water a day! A leaky toilet can waste 200 gallons a day. These leaks waste your water and your money.

Toilet Leaks are hard to detect. They are usually caused by a bad main valve, flapper valve seat, a bad flush valve, an improperly positioned float arm, or a defective overflow tube. Test your toilets by dropping a few drops of food coloring into the tank. **DO NOT FLUSH!** Wait for 15 to 20 minutes. If color appears in the bowl, then you have a leak and repairs need to be made.

Faucet Leaks are easy to find. If it drips, or worse, continues running after you shut it off, it needs to be fixed. If the dripping water is warm, it is costing you extra money! Water dripping or running from the shower head when the shower is turned firmly off, it is usually caused by bad washers or seats which need replacing. Also, check for leaks from the tub faucet when the shower is turned on. This leak will defeat the purpose of a low-flow shower head because the water you save with the low-flow device is lost from the tub faucet.

If you have any questions about water supply or billing, the Water Department Clerk is available at Town Hall Monday - Friday from 7 to 3; telephone 528-0182 ext 17.

RECYCLE RIGHT. A partial list of wrong material found in the recycling bin:

Old electric can-opener (send to metal bin)
Plastic bags (use bins at Price Chopper or Big Y)
Plastic beverage cups, lids, straws (send to trash)
Styrofoam food trays (send to trash)
More black plastic (send to trash)
Plastic toothbrushes (buy wooden ones)

WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT**Police Department:**

The Egremont Police have added a few new faces to our roster that have already been spotted around town. We are proud to announce the addition of Officer Ashley Decker and Officer Brandon Yap to our part-time roster filling two of our open positions. Both Officers are currently going through our field training program and we

hope to have them working on their own by the end of August. We have also filled our vacant full-time position with the selection of Officer Maximilian Kolb who has been serving as a part-time Officer for the town for the last eight months. Officer Kolb is currently on course to attend the Springfield Police Academy in October of this year and will be a great addition to our full time staff.

In May the town was stunned to have an attempted abduction take place on Creamery Road in broad daylight. Thankfully the victim remained calm, reacted quickly, and was able to get away to a safe place. This type of crime has been unheard of in this town and caught the community off-guard. Responding Officers acted quickly and performed professionally following any and all leads, and continue to as the investigation remains open. Although we would like to think of Egremont as it was in years past, we have to remember that times have changed and so must our approach to personal safety. We should always be aware of our surroundings, remember to lock our doors, and have a plan in place if something were to happen. We, the members of the Egremont Police department, will as always be there when needed.

Council on Aging:

Who wouldn't like to have a great recipe for Lobster Rolls? Bob Climo from from Gt Barrington Bagel Co., shared his recipe with us at our May Luncheon.. And best of all, we got to enjoy them for lunch! Bob also shared some great cooking tips with us including the best way to chop vegetables, etc.

It was sunny skies (but cool temps) for our annual French Park picnic on June 6. Many of us did the one mile walk around the park before we worked up an appetite and enjoyed a picnic lunch supplied by GB Bagel Co. Liz Keen from Indian Line Farm generously provided some plants for attendees. She also talked about the pollinator issue which is a concern to all of us. There were some great suggestions about keeping those pesky weeds in our gardens to a minimum.

We all love summer and it's beautiful weather. But please remember that extremely high temperatures can be dangerous for our elderly citizens. Please check on your neighbors, especially those who live alone. If you would like a check in call on days when temps exceed 90 degrees please call the COA at 528-0182 x 24 and we will arrange for someone to call you.

If you are a senior living alone and would like to be part of a check in to be sure you are safe you can also call the COA at 528 -0182 x 24 to set up.

New Medicare Cards will be mailed April 2018 – April 2019. You will receive a new Medicare Card with a number that's unique to you. This number can only be used for your Medicare coverage. Your Social Security Number has been removed to protect your identity. There will be no change to your benefits.

BEWARE of anyone who contacts you about your new Medicare Card. Medicare and the Social Security Administration will not contact you for your personal information. Do not give any personal information to anyone you do not know.

If you have questions about your Medicare card, please call Massachusetts Senior Medicare Patrol Program at 800-892-0809.

Seniors who have been coming to the monthly "Coffee Hours" at Mom's Café have been having great conversations and making some new acquaintances and friends. Our next get together is Wednesday, July 18, from 9:30 – 10:30. We hope you (and a friend) will join us. To help the staff at Mom's Café plan please call Will at Town Hall at 528-0182 x 17 to let us know you will join us.

Your COA and David Katzenstein (Egremont Fire Department) will again be sponsoring CPR Classes. On Thursday, July 19 from 6:00 – 8:00 the American Heart Association Family & Friends CPR class will be taught. This course is designed for anyone who would like to learn basic CPR. David will teach another session of the same class on Saturday, Aug. 25 from 10:00 – 12:00. The cost of each of these classes is \$10.00. All classes will be taught at the North Egremont Fire Station.

On Saturday, Sept. 15, from 9:00 – 12:00 David will teach the American Heart Association Heart Saver/First Aid class. After completing this class you will receive a two year certificate. The cost is \$30.00 and will again be held at the North Egremont Fire Station.

To register for these classes please call David Katzenstein at 413-441-1569. Books will be provided to participants. The beautiful Berkshire summer encourages all of us to get out and enjoy the sunshine. But please remember to be safe when you are walking/running/biking Egremont's scenic roads. Wear your "Be Seen, Be Safe" vest. If you don't have this vest, you can get one for free at the Town Hall or at the Police Station.

The COA Exercise Classes will be offered again

in July. Elaine Ireland will be instructing small group persona training sessions that stress balance, strength, and mobility....all concerns of seniors. You will be able to do the exercises you learn as you go about your daily routines.....at home, in the car, while walking, flying, etc. Class dates are Thursdays, July 5, 12, 19, and 26 from 10:30 – 11:45. The cost is \$15.00 per session or \$60.00 for the four sessions. Class size is limited. You can register by calling Will at the Town Hall at 528-0182 x 17.

Don't forget that the Western MA Food Bank distribution is the first Tuesday of each month at 12:00 at the CHP Offices on Stockbridge Road in Gt. Barrington. You just need to provide how many in your family and what Town you live in to receive food. The next date is Tuesday, July 3.

Southern Berkshire Elderly Transportation (SBETC) will continue to operate all summer. You can call 528-4773 to arrange for a pick up and ride to doctor's appointment, shopping, hair appointments, etc. There is a fee.

Liz Jaffe will teach an iPad/iPhone class at the Town Hall on Fridays, July 6 and 13 from 10:00 – 12:00. This class will focus on picture taking with your devices. Learn how to edit your photos by cropping, enhancing, and correcting lighting, how to send your photos by email, post them on Facebook, and to organize them into albums. There is no charge for this class.

Liz will also be teaching additional iPad/iPhone classes on Fridays, July 20 and 27 from 1:30 – 3:00 at the Town Hall. This will focus on different apps that are available and how to use and install them. Cost is \$15.00 Call Will at the Town Hall at 528-0182 x 17 to register

Lastly, we hope all our Seniors (and other residents) have a wonderful summer. Please call the Council on Aging Office with any questions, suggestions, or if we can be of assistance. The number is 528 – 0182 x 24.

Historical Commission:

Summer is here, and everyone's Spring and Summer clean ups are well on their way. Please remember that the matches from Jug End, the telephone book from 1963, or the other junk that makes a junk drawer, well, a junk drawer, is all treasure to us.

Before you pitch it, please consider donating it to the Town's archives.

The archives will be open on August 4th from 10 to 12, or by appointment this summer.

To honor the Town's 243rd birthday of Incorporation, (August 23rd, 1775) a dedication party will be held at 1pm at the South Village School, 42 Main Street. As we did last year, the Town will recognize those who have offered their time and talents to the Town, and everyone will be able to step inside and see the work accomplished over the summer, as we head into a new school year in our beautifully refurbished historic school.

Cake and lemonade will be on hand to celebrate the occasion. Mark your calendar!

Conservation Commission:

Community Members Engage in an Effort to Save the Turtles in Smiley's Pond

During the May 31st Conservation Commission meeting, Egremont resident and community member Ari Zorn came in for public inquiry to bring our attention to some unfortunate events transpiring in and around Smiley's Pond (also known as Mill Pond). Smiley's pond is a renowned place for birdwatching and is home to numerous wildlife. One such resident that has been particularly abundant in the Pond over the years is the turtle. However, as a result of the construction of a dam under route 41, the pond has become much less habitable for these creatures. As is common when a dam is erected in ecosystems, the turtles have had difficulty adjusting their daily and annual routes to accommodate for it. As a result, many are falling over the dam, getting stuck in the other debris that piled up at its base, and drowning. In cases where they do not get stuck, turtles are finding it virtually impossible to return to their home (the pond). There is turtle bridge that was explicitly created to accommodate turtles that had fallen from the pond, but due to its artificial and unintuitive nature, very few turtles have been able to use it effectively. Ari notified us of these circumstances and asked if there was anything we could do.

As the route 41 bridge and dam is owned by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, and the jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission does not extend to bodies of water, our ability to take action was limited. However, with the help of the Berkshire Environmental Action Team (BEAT), we were able to reach out to representatives from the Department of

Transportation and the Mass Wildlife's Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program to schedule a time to have them examine the dam to see what could be done. On June 18th over 10 representatives from various departments and concerned citizen groups met at the site to determine various steps that could be taken to find a solution. Immediate actions included putting up turtle crossing signs and installing wildlife cameras to track activity around the dam. More involved steps included looking into possible ways to mitigate the impact of the dam by redesigning the turtle bridge or adding additional components to make the existing bridge more useable. We are optimistic that a solution can be found based on the immediate response of the governmental agencies and the strong interest and commitment of local community members.

To stay up to date and/or to get involved in this initiative, join the [Friends of Smiley's Pond](#) facebook page. While the Conservation Commission cannot take official action on this, we support the effort of local community members and hope that a solution can be found quickly.

In other news of interest:

Tick bite protection: New CDC study adds to the promise of permethrin-treated clothing

(<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/05/180524141720.htm>) The case for permethrin-treated clothing to prevent tick bites keeps getting stronger. In new experiments, clothing treated with an insecticide known as permethrin had strong toxic effects on three primary species of ticks known to spread disease-causing pathogens in the United States. Exposure to permethrin interfered with the ticks' ability to move properly, making them sluggish and likely interfering with their ability to bite.

Find out about the **new Forest Cutting Practices regulations** at <https://www.mass.gov/files/documents/2018/04/23/302cmr16.pdf>. This sets out how the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Conservation and Recreation work together regarding the Wetland Protection Act and Forest Cutting Practices Act. It's a valuable resource for anyone contemplating any type of forest cutting.

And, as usual, we invite anyone interested in joining the Conservation Commission to get in touch with us (concom@egremont-ma.gov) or the Town Administrator.

Egremont Free Library

Are you interested in genealogy?

Egremont Free Library is planning a trip to New England Historic Genealogical Society in Boston this Fall. We are planning a group trip to meet with a genealogy expert to show us HOW to research. We'll hire a van/driver and go for a day trip. The library trustees are funding the trip, but there will be a small fee per individual. More details to come. We are gauging interest in how many people would sign up for the trip. If you're interested, please contact Lesliann at the library at 528-1474 or email EGRLibrary@egremont-ma.gov.

2018 Library Passes Museums & Area

Attractions

Below is a list of museum passes available to Egremont Free Library patrons. Please see the museum pass policy below. After mid July, EFL is adding The Mount, Emily Dickenson, Chesterwood and Franklin D. Roosevelt Library.

Museums

Norman Rockwell: Pass allows admission for up to 2 individuals for \$10 per person. Children 5 and under are free.

Berkshire Museum: Pass allows free admission for up to 2 adults and 2 children under the age of 18. Children 3 and under are always free.

The Clark Museum: Pass includes free admission for 1 adult.

Mass MoCA: Admits up to two adults for free. Children 13 and under are free.

Area Attractions

Hancock Shaker Village: Pass allows free admission for 2 adults and 2 children

Museum Pass Policies

First Come, First Served... Patron must come to the library and if the museum pass is here, they may borrow it for 48 hours. Please No calling ahead to reserve. Patron must return museum pass in blue envelope provided within 48 hours of borrowing pass. They should put pass in envelope and place in the Book Drop Box outside library door.

Only one pass may be borrowed at a time.

Fire Department:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Call #</i>
<i>/Location</i>		<i>/Type</i>
4/22/2018	6:43 PM	62
Falls Rd. Mt. Washington		MVA/W PI

4/23/2018	3:16 PM	63
Falls Rd. Mt. Washington		MVA/W PI
4/28/2018	12:22 PM	64
Bash Bish Falls MT. Washington		Rescue
5/1/2018	7:19 PM	65
Sages Ravine Mt. Washington		Rescue
5/2/2018	2:54 PM	66
Sheffield RD & Button Ball LN.		Brush Fire
5/2/2018	10:04	67
Jug End Rd.		Medical
5/11/2018	5:02 PM	68
State Park, Mt Washington		Search
5/16/2018	11:23 AM	69
Hilltop Rd.		False/Alarm
5/16/2018	10:41 PM	70
Blunt Rd		Service Call
5/18/2018	2:02 PM	71
Boice Rd.		False/Alarm
5/18/2018	9:50 PM	72
Egremont Plain Rd.		Structure Fire
5/21/2018	10:46 AM	73
Blunt Rd.		Med alert/False
5/21/2018	9:06 PM	74
Shun Pike Rd Hillsdale NY		Mutual Aid
5/22/2018	8:31 PM	75
Baldwin Hill N/S		CO Alarm/False
5/23/2018	6:47 PM	76
Main ST.		Medical
5/24/2018	9:38 PM	77
Main St.		Medical
5/25/2018	8:18 PM	78
Mt. Washington St. Park		Search
5/31/2018	11:46 AM	79
McGee Rd.		Medical
6/1/2018	6:38 AM	80
Baldwin Hill N/S		Medical
6/7/2018	8:09	81
Hillsdale Rd.		Medical
6/9/2018	9:35 AM	82
Green Wood Cir.		Medical
6/11/2018	3:59 PM	83
Shun Toll Rd.		Alarm/False
6/12/2018	1:16 PM	84
Baldwin Hill N/S		Medical
6/15/2018	11:30 PM	85
Mt Everett State Park		Search
6/18/2018	8:51 AM	86
Westerhook Rd.		Medical

6/18/2018	7:50 PM	87
Ridge Rd.		CO/Alarm/False
6/20/2018	1:51 AM	88
Baldwin Hill N/S		Medical
6/21/2018	8:53 AM	89
Baldwin Hill N/S		MVA/WPI
6/21/2018	4:03 PM	90
West St. Mt. Washington		Structure Fire
6/22/2018	7:38 AM	91
Main St.		Alarm/False
6/23/2018	8:28 AM	92
East St. Mt. Washington		Alarm/False
6/25/2018	12:22 PM	93
Shun Toll Rd.		Medical

Town Clerk

Egremont elections have entered a new era. The 100 year old wooden voting box, in which voters placed their paper ballots, is being retired. In its place, voters will now enter their paper ballots into our new electronic tabulator.

The tabulator will greatly assist our election workers at the end of the evening when the polls close. Instead of hand counting each individual ballot, the tabulator does the counting during the day, and with a press of a button, provides the election count. The only hand counting that will be performed will be for ballots that have write in candidates and will take a fraction of the time.

Here is the election schedule for the remainder of 2018 where our new tabulator will be used:

State Primary: Tuesday September 4th
 Last Day to Register to Vote: August 15th
 State Election: Tuesday November 6th
 Last Day to Register to Vote: October 17th
 See you at the polls!

Planning Board:

The Planning Board is pleased to welcome Jared Kelly to our board. Following are the new assignments of our members: Lucinda Vermeulen, Chair; Gregory Cherin, Vice Chair; Helen Krancer, Treasurer; Ed Regendahl, Clerk; Jared Kelly, Representative to Berkshire Regional Planning Commission.

The Board continues to discuss the proposed Recreational Overlay District bylaw as we are to report to the Select Board by October 31, 2018.

The Planning Board has created a questionnaire with the goal of understanding Egremont residents' concerns and opinions. Your answers will greatly assist us in planning for the future of Egremont.

The questionnaire will be sent to all property owners and residents via regular mail and will be available on the town's website at www.egremont-ma.gov. A hard copy can be picked up at Town Hall, the North Egremont Store, the South Egremont Post Office or the Egremont Library. Please be on the lookout for this brief, yet very important piece of town business. We request that everyone who lives in Egremont, whether full or part-time, please answer this brief questionnaire, and return it by July 20, 2018 to Town Hall.

As always the Planning Board welcomes you to join us at our regular meetings at Town Hall, usually on the second and fourth Monday of every month at 7pm. Please check the town website to confirm, as dates are subject to change.

Board of Health:

Smoking rates nationwide have drastically decreased over the last decade, but there is a new emerging trend in nicotine use which is of great concern to public health officials and parents alike. It is the marketing and use of electronic cigarettes and vaping products which is specifically targeted to the youth market.

Using deception advertising practices and offering sweet flavored, low cost products which have a sleek, tech savvy appeal, their use has skyrocketed with the nation's youth at alarming rates. While marketed as a safe, harmless alternative to cigarettes, these products are anything but, and have the potential of starting young people on a lifetime addiction to nicotine.

The flavored liquid that is inserted into an electronic cigarette and then "vaped" is nothing but a candy flavored cocktail of nicotine, volatile organic chemicals and ultrafine particles which are inhaled deeply into the lungs. The products are low cost (compared to a pack of cigarettes) and easy to obtain over the internet, thereby bypassing the minimum age requirements for traditional nicotine purchasing.

While there is much to celebrate in the declining rates of cigarette use, the use of vaping

products is exploding. Talk to your children and grandchildren about the use of these products and let them know about the associated health risks with their use. For more information, here is a helpful link at the Center for Disease Control:

https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic_information/e-cigarettes/index.htm

Holiday Tree Team:

It might seem early to be discussing the Holidays as we just got to summer, but the Holiday Tree Team wants to thank all of those who have contributed so generously over the years to bring these small tokens of light into the community over the dark nights of winter. Our public buildings and Village Greens are made festive and bright for residents and visitors alike. The Team has had to admit however that they can no longer wrestle 30 trees in and out of the ground anymore and is seeking someone a bit younger to take over. Please contact Susan Bachelder at 528 6505 if you are interested.

Friends of Prospect Lake (FoPL):

FoPL is adding another fund-raising initiative to its schedule. During the month of July, various FoPL members will be working at the Town Transfer Station, collecting the deposit cans and bottles and redeeming them. The job entails making sure the deposit-eligible items get captured, sorted, and finally redeemed at Plaza Package.

If you have a question or a comment about the lake or FoPL's work on it, please feel free to talk to us at the Transfer Station (or by phone or email.) We'll be happy to answer what we can and find out what we can't. The lake has been a pleasure this summer – loads of fish and fowl, lots of swimmers and boaters. An anecdotal note: there used to be about half a dozen fish nests in the lake bed off the typical dock. This year there seem to be 4 or 5 times that many. And there also seem to be regular visits to those nests by very large turtles. A lakeside buffet? We hope you and yours are enjoying the lake to the fullest ... along with the turtles.

And to clear up a bit of confusion that pops up now and again: Prospect Lake is NOT a private lake. Like most other Massachusetts waterbodies, it is owned by the Commonwealth. The lake belongs to us all. Now if only access to it could be easy and safe for everybody!

An older fund-raising event for the lake merits

a “*save the date*” – **Aug. 18** for FoPL’s annual **TAG SALE** in front of Town Hall. We are already bursting with items for the sale and are sorting, cleaning, tagging, and otherwise getting them ready for display. Save the date and come see what this enormous Tag Sale has to offer.

On a cautionary note: please remember to wash your boat – canoe, kayak, rowboat, paddle boat/board – wash it thoroughly with a powerful disinfectant like bleach or Lysol before you put it in the lake. We don’t want to host the hitchhiking little critters that might come from another water body. ***ABOVE ALL, ENJOY YOUR LAKE!***

Eagle Fund:

In honor of the 20th anniversary year of the Eagle Fund and to honor its founder, Catherine B. Miller, the Eagle Fund board of trustees has established an award in the amount of \$2000.00 which will be presented annually at commencement to a Mt. Everett Regional High School graduating senior who exemplifies a commitment to learning and adventure as well as a passion for giving to others.

Sarah Beckwith is the first recipient of the Catherine B. Miller Eagle Fund Award. Sarah resides on Mt. Washington, was on the National Honor Society and graduated Cum Laude from Mt. Everett on Saturday, June 2nd. During her time at Mt. Everett she was involved in multiple clubs and was a member of the soccer, basketball and softball teams. Sarah will be attending Harvard University in the fall, the first Mt. Everett graduate ever to do so. We wish her all the best.

Below is a photo of Catherine B. Miller and Sarah Beckwith.



Egremont Garden Club:

Members of the Egremont Garden Club have been hard at work during the spring tending the Town gardens. The gardens we plant and maintain in Town are located at the Village Green, Library,

Hillside Cemetery, French Park, Cemetery Rd triangle, and the bridge boxes in South Egremont. Containers and annual plants were added to the beds in front of the Library. Annuals have also been planted on the Town Green and in the bridge boxes. Tending these garden beds will continue throughout the summer months.

The Club held their annual plant sale on Memorial Day weekend. We thank all of you who came out and supported us. Proceeds from this sale help to fund a college scholarship for a local high school student as well as community events.

We are always seeking new members. For more information please contact us at egremontgardenclub@gmail.com.



(Plants at the War Memorial on the village green maintained by the Garden Club - photo by Corinna Barnard)

ECO-TIP

In summer, try to cook outdoors. Baking and stovetop cooking makes your AC work overtime. Indoors, the microwave and toaster oven use less energy and generate less heat than your stovetop. If you use a burner, cover pots to cook faster and minimize humidity.

Meeting schedule:

Meeting regularly. Subject to change. Please see postings of meetings at Town Hall and the Post Offices for more detail. This is not official.

Archives Room - First Saturday 9-noon
or by appointment

Assessors - Tuesdays & Thursdays 9am to 12noon & by appointment

Council on Aging - Third Wednesday of each month at 11am. Administrative Assistant is at Town Hall Thursday 9am to 12noon.

Board of Health - Monday–Thursday 7am to 12noon.

Meetings - Thursdays as posted 10am

Board of Selectmen - Meetings every other Monday evenings 7pm. Office weekdays 7am to 3pm.

Building Inspector - Tuesday 12:30pm to 3:30pm.

Other times and inspections by appointment

Conservation Commission - Second and Fourth

Thursdays 7:00pm

Finance Committee - January through April. Other times as needed.

Library - Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 2-6pm &

Saturday 9-12noon 413-528-1474

Planning Board - Please check web page for meeting dates.

School Committee: Second & Fourth Thursdays 6pm

Mt. Everett High School Library

Tax Collector: Monday - Friday 7:00am to 3:00pm

Town Clerk - Mon-Thurs 1pm to 3pm

or by appointment

Transfer Station - Tuesday & Thursday 8am to 1pm,

Saturday 8am to 3pm, Sunday 12noon to 4pm

Water Department - Office Clerk weekdays 7am-3pm

Meetings second Thursday 3:00pm at Town Hall

Zoning Board of Appeals - as needed

To reach a board member or to leave a message please call the Town Hall 528-0182.

Business listings:

In an effort to promote local small businesses, the following businesses/services located in, or near, Egremont have agreed to be listed here. If we missed asking you and you wish to be included, please send your information to the Town Hall.

Support local businesses:

Prospect Lake Park and Campground - camping, swimming

413-528-4158 prospectlk@aol.com

www.prospectlakepark.com

Egremont residents receive a discount to access the beach.

The Inn at Sweet Water Farm - B&B

1 Prospect Lake Road

413-528-2882

www.innsweetwater.com

John Andrews' Restaurant - Restaurant

413-528-3469

Swiss Hutte Country Inn and Restaurant-

Restaurant & Lodging

413-528-6200

www.swisshutte.com

Robin's Chair Caning - Chair caning and repairs.

Robin Walther

116 Egremont Plain Road

413-528-2537

robinschaircaning@gmail.com

Red Barn Antiques - Antique lighting & fine metal polishing

413-528-3230

41 Main Antiques Gallery - Vintage and modern furniture, antiques, collectibles, architectural and decorative objects.

413-528-0112

www.41mainantiques.com

Blue Rider Stables - Therapeutic Horseback Riding Lessons, summer programs

www.bluerider.org

413-528-5299

Green River Arabians & Pintos -

Horse Boarding, lessons, judging, farm programs

413-528-2367 arabpinto13@yahoo.com

Indian Line Farm - Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) & Farmers Markets

413-528-8301

www.indianlinefarm.com

Ivory Pond Farm -

Llamas, Yarn and Woolens. Dancing Crane Rug

Hooking Studio. Hooked rugs, lessons and supplies.

Tom & Liz Marino

413-528-9465

www.lizmarinorughooking.com

Llamama@wildblue.net

Turner Farms Maple Syrup - Phillips Road, open 7am to 7pm 7 days a week.

Syrup and Honey

413-528-5710

Skip DelVaglio – Old Drone Apiary at Frog Cottage
(Local Honey)
1257 Sheffield – Egremont Road
413 528-2308

Frog Cottage Goodies: Phyllis & Cynthia
Pies, cakes, cookies, fudge, fruitcakes, cheesecakes
1257 Sheffield/Egremont Road
Great Barrington MA 01230
413-528-2308

Elfi Six Shiatsu/Acutonics®, Bodywork
413-644-9979
www.CosmicResonance.com

Zorn Family Chiropractic-Chiropractor
44 Main Street, South Egremont
413-528-9654
healingspiritdc@yahoo.com

Zorn Core Fitness -
Personal, Couples & Group Training
Cardio Room - \$25 @ month Free 1 month cardio
for Egremont residents zornari@gmail.com
46 Main Street, South Egremont
413-528-1594 www.zorncorefitness.com

Yoga at Zorn Core Fitness, with Karin Beebe
Ashtanga Yoga & Gentle/Hatha Yoga
46 Main Street, South Egremont
413-528-0828
kbyoga@gmail.com

Amelia's Holistic Facial Rejuvenation
Combined with Reiki Level II
A licensed Aesthetician..

"Look and feel as though you just enjoyed a two-
week
vacation...without the jet lag. 518.320.8314
AmeliasHolisticFacials@gmail.com

Old Egremont Country Store - groceries, beer, wine,
liquor, newspapers, lottery, & much more
413-528-4796

Blueberry Lane Home Design - Interior decorating
413-528-9633

Closet Collection - clothing & household
consignment shop
413-528-6236

Berkshire Veneer Company - wholesale/retail
wood veneer sales
413-644-9696

Steve Agar - driving services
Ride to the airport, train, etc
413-717-1607

Lord St. Pierre - General Contractor
Home renovations, maintenance and monitoring
413-522-3671
llstpierre@yahoo.com

"Jack of All Trades"-Handyman Services
Jack Buckley
413-528-1982
413-446-1982

James Olmsted - Outdoor Services & Caretaking Field
Mowing
413-528-0102 413-717-2443

Bonnie Wells: general housekeeping, maintenance to
construction clean-up, ironing, polishing, organizing,
window washing with free screen cleaning.
413-854-7417 bonbonz75@yahoo.com

Catamount Ski Area - Skiing & ropes course
413-528-1262
www.catamountski.com

Peter Goldberg, Realtor
Residential, Commercial, Land
Stone House Realty
35 Railroad Street, Great Barrington
413-281-6384m 413-528-4211o

Anita Schilling - Real Estate Listing & Sales
William Pitt Sotheby's
413-528-4192 or 413-626-1920
anitaschilling@gmail.com

Kenver Ltd - Winter Sports Equipment, Apparel & Accessories
39 Main Street
413-528-2330 www.kenverltd.com

Maple Leaf Art Gallery - Joan Mentzinger
154 Hillsdale Road, Route 23

Cyber Knight - Matthew Wall
PC repairs - Networking - Internet
413-854-8660
Matthew.wall@yahoo.com

Dellea.biz Computer Services - Arthur Dellea
<http://www.dellea.biz>
413-528-1141

Berkshire Wildlife Solutions - Resolving conflicts with nature. Eric F. Ives
Mass Problem Animal Control Agent
Consultation/Inspection, Capture, removal and exclusionary work.
413-528-9813 413-250-5094

Brookside Quiltworks - Catherine Kane - fabric shop and quilt gallery. 2 Sheffield Road, Egremont
413-528-0445 www.brooksidequiltworks.com

Maple Shade Enterprises: Quilts and Sewing, much more
Sue Delmolino Ives
413-644-0229 susandelmolino@yahoo.com

Stitched by JessaLu - Jessica Meyer
Handmade bags for your "Stuff"! www.stitchedbyjesselu.com

Berkshire Sewn - Mary Gifford
berkshiresewn@gmail.com
413-528-3040

Gregory Cherin Photography, South Egremont 1-917-991-0553 info@gregorycherin.com
www.gregorycherin.com

Berkshire Band Instrument Co. - Kevin S. Wheeler
185 Route 71, Egremont MA 01230
413-528-4955

Hillsdale Healthcare
Primary health care. Accepting most MA, NY and CT insurance. DOT certified.
2828 State Route 23, Four Brothers Plaza, Hillsdale NY
518-325-2273

Berkshire South Regional Community Center
15 Crissey Road, Great Barrington MA
413-528-2810 www.berkshiresouth.org
Non-profit community organization serving 17 towns throughout the Southern Berkshires. Providing a variety of educational, recreational and cultural programs for all ages - from early childhood to senior citizens - and partners with several local organizations.

Gogel & Gogel - Law Firm
Business law & litigation
40 Main Street
413-528-2698 www.gogel-gogel.com

House To House Hauling & Recycling
413-528-0943
Trash hauling services and roll-off containers services.

Jana Laiz: Local Author www.crowfliespress.com
413-528-0943 www.janalaiz.com

Erika Ludwig Founder/Teacher
Berkshire Strings -
Instruction & Inspiration
erika@berkshirestrings.com
www.berkshirestrings.com
www.fiddlingfemmes.com
<https://berkshirestrings.youcanbook.me/>
413-528-5739

Aston Magna Music Festival
Saturday evenings at the new Saint James Place in Great Barrington, mid-June to mid-July.
www.astonmagna.org
Susan Obel, Executive Director

*The School:**By David A. Hunter (early 1920')*

*Near the center of the village,
 With the store across the street,
 There's a building long familiar
 To the tramp of little feet.
 'Tis a modest wooden structure
 Where one teacher sits to rule
 And the children go for learning
 To that little village school.*

*It is builded so one gable
 Faces on the village way
 And upon a pole above it
 Oft' a flag is on display.
 There's a playground out before it
 Where the children romp and fool
 When no class is held in session
 In that little village school.*

*I am sometimes in the village
 At the hours of one or nine,
 When the teacher rings the handbell
 And the children form in line.
 Then a something stirs my mem'ry
 Like a ripple in a pool
 As I see the youngsters marching
 In that little village school.*

*Just a flicker of the pages—
 I am starting from the farm
 On a happy summer morning
 With my lunch beneath my arm,
 Up across the hill I'm tramping
 Where the air is sweet and cool—
 O'er the brook upon the footbridge
 To that little village school.*

*I can see the girls and fellows
 Gathered in that room again,
 Where we used to read and figure,
 Study, spell and wield the pen.
 Oh, what magic strands unravel
 From old Mem'ry's mystic pool
 As I think of those who knew me
 At that little village school.*

*But the crowd who then were youngsters
 Now are men and women grown.
 Some have left the little village
 Some have families of their own.
 Still I find joy in writing
 With a pencil for a tool
 Of our happy days together
 At that little village school.*



Town of Egremont
 P.O. Box 368
 South Egremont MA 01258
 413-528-0182
www.egremont-ma.gov
tegrement@egremont-ma.gov

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*"The Town of Egremont is an equal opportunity
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